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## November 1996 Final Technical Report

# AASERT-92 grant

"X-Rays from High-Intensity, Short-Pulse Interactions" No. F49620-93-1-0356

award period covered 6/1/93 - 9/30/96

Professor Roger W. Falcone Principal Investigator

Department of Physics University of California at Berkeley Berkeley, California 94720

510-642-3316

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During the contract period we made significant progress in areas of high-intensity laser interaction with plasmas. The students involved included:

Susanna Gordon (through 9/93)
Ernest Glover (through 11/93)
Alan Sullivan (through 9/94)
Evert Lipman (through 5/94)
Tom Donnelly (through 6/96)
David Ponce-Marquez (through 9/96)

All of these students are US citizens, have satisfactory records, and at the time of support, graduate students in the Ph.D. program in the Physics Department at UC Berkeley. I used the grant primarily to support Tom Donnelly, but to augment the fellowships and related support of the other students. Essentially, the grant has been used to support 1.5 FTE graduate student.

### Our work involved

- -- development of ultrashort pulse x-ray sources
- -- generation of subpicosecond, unicycle electromagnetic pulses
- -- propagation of intense, short pulse lasers in plasmas
- -- new x-ray lasers
- -- new high-intensity, short pulse lasers
- -- diagnosis of multiphoton ionized plasmas
- -- interaction of intense short pulse lasers with clusters

Our work resulted in twenty-two publications which are listed below; five of these have not previously been listed on a technical report. We demonstrated a novel sources of pulsed terahertz radiation and x-rays which have ultrashort pulse duration and high intensity; this source is based on emission from ultrashort, laser-heated gases and solids. We have examined the propagation of high intensity (up to  $10^{19}$  W/cm<sup>2</sup>) ultrashort (100 fs) laser pulses in dense gases; this work has application to a variety of studies involving high power laser pulses such as harmonic generation, x-ray lasers, and laser wakefield accelerators. We studied schemes for new x-ray lasers; they involve rapid recombination of highly ionized atoms (produced by multiphoton ionization) followed by lasing on Ly- $\alpha$  x-ray transitions. We developed a new Thomson scattering technique using multiple, ultrashort laser pulses; these studies were done in multiphoton ionized plasmas of

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ID:PHYSICS DEPT, UCB

### Publications acknowledging AFOSR support

- 1. H. Hamster, A. Sullivan, S. Gordon, W. White, R.W. Falcone, "Subpicosecond, Electromagnetic Pulses from Intense Laser-Plasma Interaction," Phys. Rev. Lett. 71, 2725 (1993).
- 2. R.W. Falcone, S.P Gordon, H. Hamster, A. Sullivan, "X-Rays from High-Intensity, Short-Pulse Laser Interaction with Solids," in Laser Ablation: Mechanisms and Applications II, J.C. Miller and D. B. Geohegan, cds. (AIP, New York, 1994) pp. 529-533.
- 3. S.P. Gordon, R. Sheppard, T. Donnelly, D. Price, B. White, A. Osterheld, H. Hamster, A. Sullivan, R.W. Falcone, "Short Pulse X-Rays from Porous Targets," in Shortwavelength V. Physics with Intense Laser Pulses, M.D. Perry and P.B. Corkum, eds. (OSA, Washington, DC, 1993) pp. 203-205.
- 4. A. Sullivan, S. Gordon, H. Hamster, H. Nathel, R.W. Falcone, "Propagation of Intense, Ultrashort Laser Pulses in Plasmas," in Shortwavelength V: Physics with Intense Laser Pulses, M.D. Perry and P.B. Corkum, eds. (OSA, Washington, DC, 1993) pp. 40-44.
- 5. H. Hamster, A. Sullivan, S. Gordon, B. White, R.W. Falcone, "Subpicosecond, Far-Infrared Emission from High-Intensity Laser Plasmas," in Shortwavelength V: Physics with Intense Laser Pulses, M.D. Perry and P.B. Corkum, eds. (OSA, Washington, DC, 1993) pp. 62-65.
- 6. T.E. Glover, J.K. Crane, M.D. Perry, R.W. Falcone, "Electron Energy Distributions in Plasmas Produced By Intense Short Pulse Lasers," in Shortwavelength V: Physics with Intense Laser Pulses, M.D. Perry and P.B. Corkum, eds. (OSA, Washington, DC, 1993) pp. 189-191.
- 7. D.C. Eder, G.L. Strobel, R.A. London, M.D. Rosen, R.W. Falcone, S.P. Gordon, "Photo-Ionized Inner-Shell X-Ray Lasers," in Shortwavelength V: Physics with Intense Laser Pulses, M.D. Perry and P.B. Corkum, eds. (OSA, Washington, DC, 1993) pp. 220-222.
- 8. R.W. Falcone, S.P. Gordon, H. Hamster, A. Sullivan, T. Donnelly, "X-Ray Radiation by Ultrashort Pulse Lasers," in Ultrashort Wavelength Lasers II, S. Suckewer, cd. (SPIE, Bellingham, 1994) Vol. 2012, pp. 242-245.
- 9. S.P. Gordon, T. Donnelly, A. Sullivan, H. Hamster, R.W. Falcone, "X-Rays from Microstructured Targets Heated by Femtosecond Lusers," Opt. Lett. 19, 484 (1994).
- 10. M.M. Murnane, H.C. Kapteyn, S.P. Gordon, R.W. Falcone, "Ultrashort X-Ray Pulses," Appl. Phys. B 58, 261 (1994)

- 11. H. Hamster, A. Sullivan, S. Gordon, R.W. Falcone, "Short-Pulse Terahertz Radiation from High-Intensity Laser-Produced Plasmas," Phys. Rev. E 49, 671 (1994).
- 12. D.C. Eder, P. Amendt, L.B. DaSilva, R.A. London, B.J. MacGowan, D.L. Matthews, B.M. Penetrante, M.D. Rosen, S.C. Wilks, T.D. Donnelly, R.W. Falcone, G.L. Strobel, "Tabletop X-Ray Lasers," Phys. Plasmas 1, 1744 (1994).
- 13. T.E. Glover, T.D. Donnelly, E.A. Lipman, A. Sullivan, R.W. Falcone, "Subpicosecond Thomson Scattering Measurements of Optically Ionized Helium Plasmas," Phys. Rev. Lett. 73, 78 (1994). [erratum: Phys. Rev. Lett. 73, 2939 (1994)]
- 14. A. Sullivan, H. Hamster, S.P. Gordon, H. Nathel, R.W. Falcone, "Propagation of Intense, Ultrashort Laser Pulses in Plasmas," Opt. Lett. 19, 1544 (1994).
- 15. T.D. Donnelly, T.E. Glover, M. Hofer, E.A. Lipman, R.W. Lee, L. Da Silva, D.C. Eder, S. Mworka, R.W. Falcone, "Plasmas for Short-Wavelength Lasers Driven by Ultra-Short, High-Intensity Laser Pulses," in X-Ray Lasers 1994, D.C. Eder and D.L. Matthews, eds. (AIP, New York, 1994) Vol. 332, pp. 106-112.
- 16. T.D. Donnelly, R.W. Lee, R. W. Falcone, "Dynamics of Optical-Field Ionized Plasmas for X-Ray Lasers," Phys. Rev. A 51, R2691 (1995).
- 17. T.E. Glover, J.K. Crane, M.D. Perry, R.W. Lee, R.W. Falcone, "Measurement of Velocity Distributions and Recombination Kinetics in Tunnel Ionized Helium Plasmas." Phys. Rev. Lett. 75, 445 (1995).

### The following papers were not included in previous reports:

- 18. T. Ditmire, T. Donnelly, R.W. Falcone, M.D. Perry, "Strong X-Ray Emission from High-Temperature Plasmas Produced by Intense Irradiation of Clusters," Phys. Rev. Lett. 75, 3122 (1995).
- 19. T.D. Donnelly, T. Ditmire, M.D. Perry, R.W. Falcone, "Short Wavelength Generation form Atomic Clusters," in *Atomic Processes in Plasmas: Tenth Topical Conference*, A.L. Osterheld and W.H. Goldstein, eds. (AIP, New York, 1996) pp. 75-82.
- 20. T.D. Donnelly, L. Da Silva, R.W. Lee, S. Mrowka, M. Hofer, R.W. Falcone, "Experimental and Theoretical Investigation of Recombination-Pumped X-Ray Lasers Driven by High-Intensity, Short-Pulse Lasers," J. Opt. Soc. Am. B 13, 185 (1996).
- 21. T.D. Donnelly, T. Ditmire, K. Neuman, M.D. Perry, R.W. Falcone, "High-Order Harmonic Generation in Atom Clusters," Phys. Rev. Lett. 76, 2472 (1996).
- 22. T. Ditmire, T. Donnelly, A.M. Rubenchik, R.W. Falcone, M.D. Perry, "Interaction of Intense Laser Pulses with Atomic Clusters," Phys. Rev. A, 53, 3379 (1996).